



ADDISON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

219 Comstock • Addison, MI 49220

The mission of Addison Community Schools is to provide a well-balanced curriculum and learning environment, supplemented by enriching experiences in order for all learners to be successful.

Dear Parents and Addison Community:

August 27, 2019

I want to begin by saying that the safety of each and every student is our highest priority. Recently, with the mass shootings and tragedies that have occurred in schools across the country, many schools have changed the way in which they respond to emergency situations.

I would like to share some of Addison Community Schools updates and preventative measures used for school safety.

Last year, we received a Safety grant from the Michigan State Police for the amount of \$48,500. The bulk of this figure was used to install shatterproof window film on 192 windows through the campus. We also installed an additional camera in the elementary breezeway. We will be getting a new buzzer/monitor entrance system in the secondary. And the elementary will be receiving a new breezeway.

We currently have 60 cameras throughout the campus. Each entrance is covered either inside or out.

For the past year and a half, Addison Administration and Board members have been discussing school safety. We have looked at many options such as an resource officer, metal detectors, and the possibility of employees carrying a weapon. We have reviewed laws, policies and have researched other states. We have heard from selected Addison organizations and have discussed these topic in an open forum.

We would like to invite everyone to another open forum on **Monday, September 9th at 7:00 pm** in the secondary media center. The sole topic will be "Employees Carry a Weapon". We encourage all to come with questions, concerns and opinions.

In addition to our newest safety measures we have also approved an Emergency Operation Plan, which is a framework demonstrating how Addison Community Schools shall plan, prepare for, and respond to an emergency of significance or disaster situation.

Addison Community Schools practices the A.L.I.C.E (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) active threat method. This method provides staff with ways to proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter.

All students have access to the State of Michigan OK2SAY program. This program is a student safety program, which allows students to confidentially report tips on potential harm or criminal activities directed at school students, school employees or the school.

Annually, we practice 5 fire drills, 2 tornado and 3 lockdown drills.

I look forward to further discussion regarding this topic and keeping our school the safest school around.

Respectfully,

Steve Guerra
Addison Superintendent